

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

MAY 21, 2019

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

PRAYER: Council Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Bob Bridges, Craig Smith, Brad Berkemeier, Gary Cameron, and Megan Bradley, Student Advisor, answered roll call. Councilman Brian Conner was not present. Also present were City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse, and Kraig Younts, *Rushville Republican*.

PUBLIC HEARING: Termination of Campaign Flats Tax Abatement – Mayor Pavey opened the public hearing. He asked for questions or comments. There were none. Berkemeier moved to close the public hearing. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Cameron moved to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2019 meeting as presented. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Pavey reported as follows:

1. Councilman Berkemeier and the interns are working on the census.
2. There will be Memorial services on Monday at 11:00 a.m. at Veteran's Bridge.
3. Met with the Muncie station regarding the focus on Rush County.
4. We completed the redesign of the Fire Department. We will submit to the State for a permit.
5. We continue to reach out to Sugar Hill residents regarding drainage.
6. The Board of Works approved the rent agreement with the Utilities.
7. The Senior Center is trying to get word out regarding the Community Para-Medicine Program.
8. The Drainage Board study was submitted to Homeland Security.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Budget forms for the year 2020 have been given to the Department Heads to complete.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Stellar Designation** – Met with OCRA to work on final approval of the Overlook. Demolition is taking place on the inside of the Taff building.
- **Amphitheater/Park Board** – There will be a meeting tomorrow. We are preparing for the June 8th concert.
- **Marketing** – The interns are working on marketing.
- **APC/BZA** – Getting work completed for Union Savings and Loan.
- **City Center** – We went over the final punch list for Ivy Tech and the Council Chambers.
- **Cherry Street Extension** – Nothing.
- **Brownfield Grant** – Completed. We will take this off of this list.
- **Housing** – Later on the agenda.
- **ECDC** – The President of CORMO was in Indianapolis last night and had dinner with the Governor.

McCane is preparing to begin interviewing for a new assistant.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Street – Commissioner Miller said they have been working at Wilson Estates. There was a tree in the middle of the railroad bed that had plugged up the drain. They ran the jet through and it is opened up. They will go back with the jet to clear anything that may have been missed. We will put catch basins in eventually. We will also need to cut trees in this area.

Police – Some of the officers served a meal to students and their mentors for the MORE dinner. We participated in the Unified Olympics at RES. Today we did “Breakfast with Badges”.

The EMA distributed trauma kits for our vehicles.

We have received our thermal imaging equipment. We will receive training on the equipment before use.

Traffic Committee: Chief Tucker gave the following Traffic Committee report:

1. We are still reviewing the street dedication at the Flatrock apartments.
2. Request for stop sign – We are getting data with the radar trailer.
3. Harrison Street request for sign for autistic child. They had a concern of speeding. Tucker will contact the resident.

4. Speed on 7th Street west of Spencer – We will put the speed trailer in the area to gather data.
5. One way street 800 block of West 4th – Tucker said he spoke with the residents and all are ok with making this a one way for east bound traffic. The Board of Works gave a favorable recommendation. Bridges made a motion to accept the recommendation of the traffic committee. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith said there are parking concerns with trailers parked on the street and vehicles parking the wrong way. Tucker said they will keep an eye out.

Fire – Chief Jenkins reported that they received \$10,000 from Rush Shelby Energy to purchase a drone.

Dairy Queen will have a sponsor night on May 29th from 4:00-9:00 p.m.

Animal – Warden Cottrell reported that they had an event at Tractor Supply on Saturday. They micro chipped 30 animals and raised \$198.00. They took foster kittens to school on Friday. They have taken in lots of puppies.

They have been invited by Skyview Drive-in to do some type of program. We are working out the details.

Cottrell has worked out a deal with Vogels to put flowers/plants in the planters in front of the shelter and Vogels will put their advertisement on the front of the planters.

Park – Director Burklow said they hope to be able to open the pool next Friday. They are a little behind schedule on getting the floor painted. They will try to get it done tomorrow weather permitting. Then we will be able to fill the pool. The employees are hired for the summer.

Councilman Smith asked if we cut the grass by Copeland and the hotel. He said it is approximately 24 inches tall. Jemmy Miller said a company comes in and cuts it, but they wait until it gets a certain height. Miller said they will cut it back a ways while waiting on the company to mow.

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Street Lights South of Town** – There will be a meeting June 3 at 1:00. Duke has put together a proposal. We will need to get some easements.
2. **CCMG Local Roads** – We are putting together documents for bidding.
3. **Cupp Property 214 E 2nd** – We are working towards a June date.

4. **Stellar – Taff Building BOT** – We received 2 responses. PSI and Martz had the finance component; Barnes & Miran did not have the finance piece. The Board of works moved to go with PSI and Martz.
5. **Animal Shelter Bids Due 6/7/19** – We have information posted at City Hall regarding bids and specifications. There is a schedule that can be obtained from our web site. They will need to register for this information.
6. **Tim Byrd Annexation 1305 N Spencer** – Newhouse is working through the annexation to take effect after January 1st. We cannot pass an annexation during a census.
7. **Resolution 2019-14 – Termination of Tax Abatement Campaign Flats** – Councilman Berkemeier said the abatement has no value. Bridges made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-14. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
8. **Ordinance 2019-5 Amending Chapter 33 Personnel Provisions – 33.02 Residence Requirements** – Cameron moved to approve Ordinance 2019-5. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.
9. **Resolution 2019-15 Police and Rush County Schools Purchase of Police Car** – Smith moved to approve Resolution 2019-15. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
10. **Resolution 2019-16 Fire/Rescue Department Liquidation** – Chief Jenkins asked to table the matter due to Muncie not being prepared to move forward yet. Smith moved to table. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
11. **Resolution 2019-17 Support of Fiber Initiative** – Carole Yeend and Mark McCorkle gave a short presentation on the initiative to bring reliable broadband to the entire County. We need support and asked everyone to attend a meeting Thursday, May 23rd. They also urged everyone to take a survey on line or on paper. They would like to have the survey back by the end of the month. Berkemeier said this would be important since the school will be going to e-learning next year. Smith moved to approve Resolution 2019-17. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Utility Board Leak Protection** – Gina Jenkins said the Utility Board has approved the NLC Service Line Warranty program, but have not yet signed the agreement.

Ashley Shiwarski explained the Service Line Program. She said this is the only utility line warranty program endorsed by the National League of Cities. Over 500 municipalities participate in this program nationwide. There is no cost or liability for the City to participate. This provides ongoing revenue for the City. USP handles all marketing and management and management of the program. All repairs are performed to City code

by local, licensed contractors. The homeowner is billed by NLC Service Line Warranty Program.

Coverage includes:

- Up to \$8,500 coverage per incident;
- includes coverage for thawing of frozen external water lines;
- there is no annual or lifetime limits, deductibles, service fees, forms or paperwork;
- availability is 24/7/365;
- repairs are made only by licensed, local contractors;
- affordable rates and multiple payment methods.

The Utility's target date is July or August. Smith moved to recommend to the Utility Board to enter into a contract with NLC. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried. Newhouse will prepare a resolution to proceed with this program.

2. **Housing Financing** – Pavey said we are not quite ready. We are looking at 2 options.

UPCOMING BUSINESS:

1. **CORMO USA Schedule** - Pavey said there will be interaction with the Redevelopment Commission and the Zoning Board.

CLAIMS AND APRIL 2019 BANK RECONCILIATION: Smith moved to approve the claims as presented and the April 2019 bank reconciliation. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: Janice Osborne came before Council to voice her concerns regarding bird droppings downtown in front of their business. She said per the City ordinance it is illegal to kill pigeons in the City limits. She asked Council to consider amending the ordinance to allow a business owner to kill pigeons in order to have a healthier atmosphere. She said a person can get serious illnesses from bird droppings. She said the most effective way to limit this activity is to kill them. Newhouse said there is too much potential that something or someone could be hurt. Smith said we can never allow firearms to be fired in the downtown area. Newhouse said we can put spikes up on the buildings. Smith asked Osborne if she had any evidence of the droppings. She did not. Smith assured Osborne that we will monitor the situation after the spikes go up on the buildings.

Osborne also said during the construction project they lost customers and money. She wants the city to consider tax rebate during construction projects. She said this has taken a toll on their quality of life. Smith suggested that Osborne work with the chamber and ECDC to market their business.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before Council; Smith moved to adjourn. Cameron seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

